**Week 2 – Chapter 1 overview**

Russell & Turnbull

Ch. 1:: P. 36 #1-d: Consider a program in your organization. If it were to be evaluated, what might be the purpose of the evaluation at this point in time? Consider the stage of the program and the information needs of different stakeholder groups. What might be the role of evaluators in conducting the evaluation?

Ch. 1:: P. 36 #2 – d: What kind of evaluation do you think is most useful – formative or summative? What kind of evaluation would be most useful to you in your work? What kind of evaluation would be most useful o your school board or elected officials?

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Week 3 – Chapter 5 overview**

Ch. 5:: P. 151 #3 – d: If a team of experts were reviewing your school or organization, what kinds of experts would you want on the team? What criteria would you want them to use to judge the quality of your organization?

Ch. 5:: P. 151 #4 – d: Referring to question #3, who would you trust to make a better judgment – someone who is an expert in the content or subject matter of your organization or someone who knows evaluation theories, and methods for judging something? Justify your response.

Ch. 5:: P. 151 #2 – a: Your high school is going to be visited by an outside accreditation team. What issues do you think they should attend to? What do you think they might miss in a short visit? What information do you think they should collect? What should they do while they’re visiting? Do you think such a team could make a difference for your school? Why or why not?

Ch. 5:: P. 152 #6 – a: Examine a recent issue in Consumer Reports or a similar magazine or online publication that reviews products and critique their review of a particular product. Do you agree with their selection of the criteria to judge the product? Would you exclude any criteria? Include others? Are the standards they use to judge each product on the criteria explicit? Appropriate? How would you judge their data collection process, that is, their means for determining how each product performs on the criteria? As an expert, or perhaps a connoisseur of consumer-based evaluation, how would you judge their evaluation? How would you improve their process?

**Ch. 5:: Assignment 1**\* P. 151 - #4 – a: 500- 1000 words APA format … Look at an evaluation of an educational product of interest to you on What Works Clearinghouse at <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc>.

Critique their presentation of information from an expertise-oriented and from a consumer-oriented approach.

What information is helpful?

Would other information be helpful to you in making a decision? If so, what?

Does that information relate to a different criterion or standard you have?

How does the information fit into the approaches reviewed in this chapter?

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Week 4 – Chapters 6 & 7 overview**

Ch. 6:: P. 170 #1 –d: What are some of the primary reasons for using an objective-oriented evaluation approach? Name a program or policy that you think would be useful to evaluate with this approach and discuss your rationale.

Ch. 7:: P. 186 #1 –d: Which decision-oriented approach do you find most appealing? Which would be most useful in your organization to improve decisions? Are there elements of the other approaches that you think would also be useful? Could you combine them?

**Ch. 7:: Assignment 2**\* P. 187 #3 –a:

Demonstrated a need for Federal Support to reduce the achievement gap

Received $1,000,000 to spend over 3 years (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2014)

Meeting with Asst. to Supt., 30 principals

Thorough evaluation of current Math and Reading programs would be completed by Sept. 30, 2011 to identify needs

Alternative strategies for solving needs would then be investigated and a program chosen to reduce the achievement gap

Establish an evaluation team that would be responsible for following:

* Conducting the evaluation of the reading and mathematics programs of the eligible schools
* Evaluating alternative programs to meet the needs of the thirty schools
* Continually monitoring the program, which would be implemented starting in 2012
* Collecting information to be reported annually (on June 30 for each year of the grant) to the U.S. Department of Education

Using what you have just learned about decision-oriented evaluation approaches tell the evaluation team members how they should proceed (assuming that it is now March 2011). Be as detailed in your planning as you can be.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Week 5 – Chapter 8 overview**

Ch. 8:: P. 229 #1 – a: Consider a program that you are involved with that you would benefit from a participant-oriented evaluation. What would be your purpose in using this approach in your evaluation? Which approach would you select and why? Consider how you would select stakeholders, the ways in which you would involve them. Discuss the areas in which you would follow the principles or steps of the approach and areas in which you would deviate.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Week 6** – NONE

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Week 7 – Chapter 9 & 10 overview**

Ch. 9:: P. 241 #1 – d: What is the culture of the course you are taking? Describe some of its characteristics. How would a person who has never been a student in a university course perceive this culture? Would he or she see it the same way that you do? If this person were an evaluator, how would his or her different perceptions affect the way the evaluation is conducted?

Ch. 9:: P. 241 #2 – d: Do you think mainstreaming evaluation is possible? Desirable?

**Ch. 9:: Assignment** \* P. 241 #1 – a AND #2 – a:

Written response to the case studies cited on page 241.

#1: Discuss and critique her methods for gaining cultural competence to evaluate a program in your city that serves students or clients quite different from yourself or your experience.

How would you build on Bledsoe’s activities?

What else would you do?

#2: Compare and contrast King and Milstein’s methods.

Which do you favor?

Which would be most appropriate for your own organization?

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Week 8** – Mid-Term

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------